Cultivating Community through Sustainable Transportation

Proposed Bicycle & Pedestrian Improvements for Vergennes, Vermont

Partnered with ACRPC & City of Vergennes

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Methods

- Assessed current infrastructure
- Obtained and analyzed speed data and accident reports
- Met with community leaders
- Surveyed community members
Walking
- Non-walkers: 29%
- Walkers: 71%

Biking
- Non-bicyclists: 58%
- Bicyclists: 42%

n = 55
Barriers for Non-walkers and Non-bicyclists

- **Travel Time**
  - Non-walkers (n=12): 60%
  - Non-bicyclists (n=26): 50%

- **Physical Effort**
  - Non-walkers (n=12): 10%
  - Non-bicyclists (n=26): 20%

- **Weather**
  - Non-walkers (n=12): 30%
  - Non-bicyclists (n=26): 40%

- **Safety Concerns**
  - Non-walkers (n=12): 20%
  - Non-bicyclists (n=26): 20%

- **Infrastructure Conditions**
  - Non-walkers (n=12): 10%
  - Non-bicyclists (n=26): 10%
Question 5: What is one improvement that could be made in Vergennes to encourage you to walk or bike more often? (n=55)
Distillation of Themes

**Barriers**
- Travel Time
- Weather
- Physical Effort
- Safety Concerns
- Condition of Infrastructure

**Improvements**
- Smoother Sidewalks
- New Sidewalks
- Bike Lanes
- Bike Paths
- Wider Sidewalks
- Safer Crossing & Other Safety Concerns
- Improved Lighting

**Themes**
- Safety
- Connectivity
- Perceptions & Habits
Current Sidewalk Connectivity

- school
- shopping
- large employer
- downtown

Legend:
- sidewalk on both sides
- sidewalk on one side
- no sidewalk

Map showing sidewalk connectivity in a town.

- Pedestrian Injuries
- Bicyclist Injuries

Downtown Business District

Otter Creek
Intersections
Recommendation 1: Add pedestrian signals at Main Street and Green Street
Main Street and Monkton Road
Recommendation 2: Add pedestrian signals at Main Street and Monkton Road
Crosswalk Design
**Recommendation 3:** Increase the distance between parallel parking spaces and crosswalks to be at least 20ft in all locations to improve pedestrian visibility.

**Recommendation 4:** Install crosswalk “bump-outs” to reduce roadway width at crossing points, improve driver visibility of pedestrians, and reduce vehicle speeds.

**Recommendation 5:** Alert drivers to the presence of pedestrians by adding texture to the crosswalks to make them more visible and installing in-street crosswalk signs to alert motorists of crosswalks.
**Additional Crosswalks**

**Recommendation 6**: Add a crosswalk at 360 Main Street, on Bridge over Otter Creek
Recommendation 7: Add two crosswalks as shown in the below map to allow pedestrians to easily and safely reach the shopping center.

Recommendation 11: Extend sidewalk connectivity along Ridgeview Drive to the shopping center and install crosswalks to assist pedestrians with crossing Monkton Road.
Recommendation 8: Add a crosswalk across Route 22A at the intersection of Meigs Rd.

Recommendation 10: Extend sidewalk connectivity approximately 0.4 miles to complete sidewalk link between the Vergennes Redemption Center convenience store and the Ferrisburgh park-and-ride.
2.2 Smoother Sidewalks
Recommendation 9: Evaluate sidewalk repair costs and develop a long-term plan to adequately fund sidewalk maintenance and repairs.
Bicycle Infrastructure

Recommendation 12:
Add bicycle lanes where the roadway is wide enough and shared roadway markings in other locations
Recreational Trails

Recommendation 13: Continue to pursue the creation of a rail trail, and consider paving.
Speed Data

81-85 mph!

71-75 mph!

81-85 mph!

200 NB/SB

202 NB/SB

195 NB/SB

71-75 mph!


Traffic Calming

Recommendation 14: Create raised crosswalks in downtown

Recommendation 15: Add texture to the road surface downtown

Recommendations 16: Install a radar speed check sign in downtown Vergennes
Bicycle and Pedestrian Educational Initiatives

**Recommendation 17**: Start a Student Crossing Guard Program

**Recommendation 18**: Start a Walking School Bus Program
Recommendation 19: Through advertising, inform the public of the usefulness of Google Maps for obtaining walking and biking directions.

Recommendation 20: Incorporate biking and walking into a wide variety of city events.
Cultivating Community: Benefits of Recommendations

• Physical Health & Well-Being
• Cultivate Community
• Equal Access
• Healthier Environment
• Economic Benefits
• Improved Safety

go.middlebury.edu/VergennesBikePed

• Vergennes as a Model
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